Reviewer’s report

Title: Root resorption, treatment time and extraction rate during orthodontic treatment with self-ligating and conventional brackets

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Reviewer: Moritz Blanck-Lubarsch

Reviewer’s report:

The authors analyse current bracket systems in comparison to their effects on apical root resorption. The systems that have been reviewed are frequently in use and compare self-ligating and conventional bracket systems. The title and introduction of this retrospective research article leads easily to the posed question. Methods are described well and comprehensible, while discussion and conclusion are balanced and give the reader a good overview about the connections in the field. The authors also lay a focus on treatment time, number of appointments and mostly affected teeth by root resorption, which makes the paper very interesting on current issue, not only for science but also for practice.

Minor supplementary notes:

1. I would like to suggest the authors to add a new section "ethical approval" after conclusion and move the last abstract "Pre- and post-treatment radiographs were present due to the usual treatment procedure .... " from the section "X-ray measurement and patient informed consent" to the one mentioned above.

2. If the analysis of the panoramic radiographs measurement was blinded to the bracket system this should be mentioned to underline the quality of methods.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests